THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has informed that after receipt of full payment and required documents, possession letters are issued to the allottees,.The possession of all the flats, except four, have been taken overby the allottees after the issue of possession letters by DDA.

(d) to (g) DDA has reported that the flats were lying vacant for some time and required some repair. Repair work in such flats has been taken up and also completed in some cases.

Increase in reservation quota for disabled

†2069. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the reservation quota for disabled persons;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when this decision is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Practice of untouchability

2070. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a recent study has revealed that there are 80 forms of "untouchability" practices reported against dalits;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the steps contemplated to wipe off these practices?

THE MINSITER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (c) No such study report has been submitted to the Central Government.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The practice of untouchability in any form has been abolished under Article 17 of the Constitution of India. The Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 prescribes punishment for the preaching and practice of untouchability. Since State Governments/Union Territory Administration are implementing the Act, suitable advisories are issued to them from time to time to implement the Act in letter and spirit. Besides central assistance is also released to them for measures taken towards effective implementation of the Act.

Reservation in multinational and private companies

2071. SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARM: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would insist on the multinational companies and other private institutions to follow the reservation policies in employment and promotions of jobs; and

(b) if so, the steps contemplated to make reservation in such institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) A Group of Ministers (GoM) has been constituted to examine the issue of affirmative action, including reservation, in private sector. The dialogue initiated by the GoM with the apex associations of industry and trade to see how best the private sector can fulfill the aspirations of the youth belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is in progress.

Special teachers for mentally and physically challenged children

2072. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken to meet the requirements of special teachers for the mentally and physically challenged children;

(b) the details of all such teacher's training institutions run by his Ministry;

(c) the budget for these institutions; and

(d) the details of the NGO's involved in giving training to such teachers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) has approved 56 courses which are run by 200 recognized institutions for training of special teachers.